



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Custer National Forest

1310 Main Street
Billings, MT 59105
406 657-6200

File Code: 1920

Date: April 27, 2010

Dear Planning Partner:

I am notifying you that I am making a correction to the Custer National Forest and National Grassland Land and Resource Management Plan (USDA, 1986)(hereafter, Forest Plan). Recent work on the Mystic Lake FERC relicensing identified what appears to be a mistake in the identification of the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) for the Wilderness Management Area (MA-I). The Forest Plan identifies a VQO of Retention for the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. This is not correct; it should be Preservation (*FS, USDA, HB 462, National Forest Landscape Management, Volume 2, Chapter 1, The Visual Management System, p. 29*)(PL 95-249). The VQO for the Recommended Wilderness management area (MA-H) is correctly identified as Preservation.

The regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act allow me to make factual corrections to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) to the Forest Plan (*40 CFR 1503.4*). The Forest Plan is the selected alternative from the FEIS (*FS, USDA, 1987*). Therefore, I hereby correct the VQO by replacing the word "Retention" on p. 69, C. Management Standards, 1. Recreation, b. with the word "Preservation". This correction can be implemented immediately and is not subject to appeal.

If you have questions about the Custer National Forest program please contact any member of my planning staff at 406-657-6200. Thank you for your continued interest in the Custer National Forest.

Sincerely,

CHRIS WORTH
Deputy Forest Supervisor

